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Message Text

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42
ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 EUR-10 RSR-01 NSC-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSCE-00 PRS-01 PM-07 /061 W
---------- 050241
R 251353Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7221
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2666

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJ: VISIT BY RULER OF KUWAIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

1. FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMAD TOLD ME IN CONFIDENCE THAT SHAIKH SABAH AL-SALEM, RULER OF KUWAIT, PLANS VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA WITHIN WEEK OR SO.

2. ABOVE REVELATION CAME IN CONTEXT MY MEETING WITH FONMIN JULY 25 DURING WHICH WE DISCUSSED PENINSULA/GULF AFFAIRS AND I MENTIONED RE RTS THAT SAUDIS GMRHAPPY WITH FONMIN SABAH'S RECENT TOUR OF GULF STATES AND OMAN. SABAH REPLIED HE AWARE OF SAUDI IRRITATION, NOT ONLY RE GULF TRIP BUT ALSO RE KUWAITI RELATIONS WITH PDRY. SABAH ASSERTED HIS BILATERAL, RATHER THAN MULTI LATERAL, APPROACH TO LOWER GULF STATES AND OMAN HAD BEEN DESIGNED WITH EYE TO SAUDI SENSIBILITIES, AND HE HAD DELIBERATELY TAKEN OCCASION OF SPEECH IN ABU DHABI TO STATE VIEW THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD VITAL ROLE TO PLAY IN DEVELOPMENT OF GULF. KUWAIT HAD NO DESIRE WHATEVER TO IRRITATE SAUDI ARABIA AND CONSIDERED AIMS OF TWO COUNTRIES TO BE IDENTICAL IN GULF.
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3. SABAH SAID IT WAS NEVERTHELESS HIGH TIME FOR GOK TO MAKE NEW OVERTURE TO SAG, AND KUWAITIS HOPED TOP LEVEL VISIT BY AMIR WOULD BE OCCASION SMOOTH RUFFLED FEATHERS.

4. FONMIN SAID HE ALSO ANXIOUS DO WHAT HE COULD RE SAUDI-ABU DHABI DISPUTE. HE SAID UAE FONMIN SUWEIDI HAD PROMISED SEND HIM ABU DHABI BRIEF AND MAPS RE DISPUTE WHICH SABAH HAD HOPED RECEIVE BEFORE AMIR'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. SO FAR, HOWEVER, HE HAD RECEIVED NOTHING FROM SUWEIDI.
STOLTZFUS

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